



# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Vol. 5, No. 2

343 King's Highway East

May, 1962

## **G. EDWIN BRUMBAUGH WILL SPEAK ON BATSTO RESTORATION AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT SOCIETY MEETING, MAY 22**

No one has been more closely associated with the restoration of Batsto than G. Edwin Brumbaugh, a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and one of the few outstanding restoration architects in the country.

Among his many historical restoration projects are such famous edifices as Washington's Headquarters and Lafayette's Quarters at Chadds Ford, Pa., the Thompson-Neely House, Bowman's Hill, Washington Crossing Park, Pa. (quarters of officers of Washington's Army), Pottsgrove Mansion, Pottstown, Pa., Daniel Boone Homestead, Baumstown, Pa., the nine buildings at Ephrata Cloister, Ephrata, Pa. (1734 to 1837) and other projects which are part of the historical program of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Brumbaugh also restored, for the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of New Jersey, "The Old School House," Mount Holly, N. J., a number of Philadelphia and New York landmarks, and is now engaged in the first 2 restorations on the Wharton Tract in New Jersey. This latter plan covers every phase of

### **NEXT MEETING**

**DATE: Tuesday, May 22**

**TIME: 8 P. M.**

**PLACE: The "GARAGATORIUM"**

(In rear of Greenfield Hall)

historical aspects and restoration of some forty structures.

Mr. Brumbaugh's talk will have special reference to Batsto and Wharton but he will also tell us some of the highlights of restoration work of other historic sites. A major project at present is the preservation of the Atsion Mansion in Atsion, N. J.

It is interesting to recall that Mr. Brumbaugh's sister, Mabel Brumbaugh Lewars, taught at Haddonfield Friends School and that Mr. Brumbaugh is no stranger to Haddonfield.

Thanks to one of the Society's members, Lou Goettelmann, we are fortunate to have such an illustrious speaker tell us about the newest developments in one of the earliest and most fascinating communities in the state.

## **SOCIETY APPEALS TO MEMBERS TO HELP SAVE HISTORIC HIP ROOF HOUSE, BUILT IN 1742**

The following letter by Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dalton, Sr., chairmen of the Hip Roof House Committee, brings to the attention of Society members the need to preserve what is considered to be the oldest house in Haddonfield,—one of the most important landmarks remaining which give Haddonfield its historic colonial character and interest. How the house came to be the responsibility of the Society and what Society members can do to keep this early house from being sold on the open market, and perhaps torn down to make way for new buildings, is told in the Daltons' letter. The decision to make a supreme effort to preserve the house was made after a great deal of discussion and deliberation among the Trustees of the Society. It was also the consensus of representatives of many of Haddonfield's civic organizations who were consulted that "the Hip Roof House should be saved." All agreed that an appeal to Society members and the entire community would be the best way to raise the money needed. Other communities have preserved their historic homes in this way and it is hoped that everyone in Haddonfield who takes pride in its history will "rise to the call!"

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The little frame house, called the Hip Roof House, at 23 Ellis Street, was built in 1742 by Samuel Mickle and is considered by many to be the oldest building in Haddonfield. Originally, a large house, it stood on the northeast corner of King's Highway and Tanner street.

This house was purchased later by Elizabeth Haddon Estaugh to be used as a gate house for her home which stood on the site of the old Wood house, now standing on Wood Lane.

After the death of her nephew, Ebenezer Hopkins, whose home still stands on Cooper River Parkway, Elizabeth Estaugh deeded the house to his widow, Sara Lord Hopkins, who lived there for the remainder of her life.

The house was moved East on King's Highway in 1760 and in 1836, the owner at that time, John Clement, had the building cut apart and moved to its

present location. The other part of the building has been lost entirely.

The house and land are a part of the estate of the late Mrs. George Vickers, who wanted the Historical Society to have first refusal of the property so that it might be preserved as one of the survivals of the early days of the community. The price has been set at \$4000 for the Society by the Executors, and has been assessed at \$4800 for taxation purposes.

Having recently assumed the obligation of our new headquarters, the Society cannot afford the full amount of the cost of the Hip Roof House and needs outside assistance. The Trustees agreed to underwrite the 10% deposit of \$400 personally which they did and which was paid to the Haddonfield National Bank, Mrs. Vickers' executor.

We are appealing to our fellow  
*(Continued on page four)*

## FIRST NORTH AMERICAN DINOSAUR FOUND IN HADDONFIELD, 1858

### A PREHISTORIC NOTE

by

Henry D. M. Sherrerd

This note concerns an historic event which happened possibly 130,000,000 years ago in what is now Haddonfield.

Speaking *geologically* and *comparatively*, the events with which the Haddonfield Historical Society usually concerns itself (i. e. events of the past one, two or three hundred years), occurred yesterday, or even a few minute ago!

The event in question was the death of a North American Dinosaur whose fossilized skeleton (or at least a considerable portion of it) came to rest below the side lawn of Mr. Thomas E. Toale at 501 Grove street, Haddonfield. His home is located on the north side of Grove street just to the east of the little ravine running to the north from Grove street, between Hawthorne and Rhoads Avenues.

The exact spot in question is about 75 feet almost due east of the center of the culvert near Grove street and located on the west lawn of Mr. Toale's residence.

The historic significance of the spot lies in the fact that this Dinosaur which was discovered and excavated in 1858 was the first dinosaur skeleton to be discovered in North America. Previously fragments of dinosaur bones or skeletons had been discovered in the far West, but this one was the first skeleton discovered which was even partially complete.

These fossilized bones were turned over to Dr. Joseph Leidy of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia who described the bones and teeth very carefully and showed that they developed to a Hadrosaur, one of the so

called duck-billed dinosaurs, related to Iguanodon. He named the new dinosaur Hadrosaurus Foulkii, after Mr. W. Parker Foulke of Philadelphia who had discovered the bones. The name Hadrosaurus comes from the words Hadro meaning "bulky," and Saurus meaning "lizard," hence "Foulke's Bulky Lizard."

The fossilized bones of Hadrosaurus Foulkii, or at least as many of them as could be found were assembled and mounted, in accordance with the best scientific knowledge of the time. The assembled skeleton with missing parts restored was on display for many years at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

Subsequent studies in paleontology have proved that these bones had not been assembled correctly and that about two thirds of the original skeleton was missing, including the skull.

The bones were disassembled some years ago but a number of the best specimens are now displayed in a case in the Academy, in front of a large mural, showing dinosaurs of the general type of Hadrosaurus Foulkii. The legend in the case states that these fossilized bones were found in Haddonfield and are those of the "first dinosaur to be shown in North America."

Undoubtedly this note will produce skepticism and be questioned by some residents of Haddonfield, as it is the general idea of most of those who have even heard of Hadrosaurus that it was found on the shores of Hopkins Pond.

We have, however, the testimony as to the exact location from Mr. Josiah Willets and also from the father of the writer of this note, both of whom lived as small boys on Grove street, only a few years after Hadrosaurus was excavated.

## Historical Society of Haddonfield

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townsmen and particularly to each member of the Historical Society to contribute as much as possible to meet the remaining obligation of \$3600. Each member of the Society will be telephoned and asked to contribute. We hope that you will want to give generously so that the Hip Roof House, which not only has the interest of age but is a significant part of the life of Elizabeth Haddon, may be preserved as one of our heritages.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Dalton, Sr.,  
*Chairmen, Hip Roof House Committee*

(Please make checks in contribution to the purchase of the Hip Roof House payable to the Haddonfield Historical Society. Other members of the Committee are: Mrs. Jesse G. Haydock, Sr., Mr. Jesse G. Haydock, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Edwin J. Pearson, Mr. M. E. Neely, Jr., Mr. Joseph S. Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. Albert T. Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Bauer, and Mrs. Louis H. Goettelmann, President, as ex-officio member.)

#### A LIBRARY PROJECT

It was decided at a recent Board meeting to obtain a typewriter for the Library through donations of completed books of Green Stamps. Our president wishes to thank those who have already donated nine books. We need a total of 26, so more donations are welcome.

#### 200 VISIT GREENFIELD HALL

On Sunday afternoon, May 6, from 2 to 5 P. M. over 200 persons visited the Society's Greenfield Hall, and garden, in connection with the Haddonfield garden tour of The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, their first in New Jersey and very successful.

#### HOW TO JOIN THE HADDONFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Check the classification you wish and mail with your check or money order and your name and address to the chairman of the membership committee, Mrs. Wm. E. Moody, 841 Edge Park Drive E., Haddonfield.

Contributing Membership:

\$25.00 per couple per year

\$25.00 per individual per year

Sustaining Membership:

\$10.00 per couple per year

Single Membership: \$5.00 per year

Name .....

Address .....

Mrs. James G. Aiken, Editor  
Historical Society Bulletin

Send all editorial contributions to:  
120 Warwick Road  
Haddonfield, N. J.